

Issue 44: INSIDER'S EDGE: Disability Payments—Is it Income?

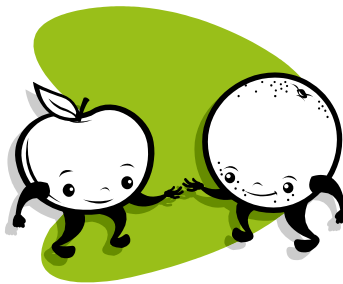
Welcome back! Thanks for tuning in for another edition of Insider's Edge.



Today we'll be turning our attention to a topic I *know* must be near and dear to your hearts by now...MAGI (modified gross adjusted income). Specifically, we'll be taking a closer look at social security payments.

Some readers weren't sure how to handle Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments versus Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments. Since both SSI and SSDI provide assistance to disabled individuals, does this mean that both count as income under the MAGI (modified gross adjusted income) rules?

Not so fast, Insiders! SSI and SSDI are separate programs. Trying to lump both together as income under MAGI is like comparing apples to oranges!



Payments from the two programs are handled differently under the MAGI rules.

- SSI payments do **not** count towards a person's income under the MAGI rules.
- However, other Social Security benefits, including SSDI **are** countable as income under the MAGI rules.

Need a refresher on the basics of what counts as income under MAGI? Check out *Issue 30: INSIDER'S EDGE: DOs and DON'Ts—MAGI is back!*

Questions? Send them to dhmh.medicaidmarge@maryland.gov.